THE

English Rogue

Containing a brief Diſcovery of the moſt Eminent Cheats, Robberies, *and other* Extravagancies, by him Committed, &c.

To which is added a *CANTING Dictionary* Words now in uſe with *Beggars* and *Gypſies*.

Read, but take heed that you ſuch actions ſhun
For honeſty is beſt when all is done.

Licenſed according to Order.

printed for *J. Blare*, at the *Looking-Glaſs*, on *London-Bridge*, 1688.

THE English Rogue, &c.

An Introduction to the following Discourse.

OUr Witty Extravagant (of whom this following Tract is to give Relation of, and whose Matchless Contrivance, tending to all manner of Vice, Guſman, Lazarillo de Tormes, and all others Remarkable for such like Villanies, are compell'd, as being out-done, to strike Sail) was Born of English Parents, whose care was great in the bringing up of this their hopeful Son; but the Planet Mercury was so predominant at the hour of his Nativity, as presag'd him not to be cut out for Plow-Jobbing (such as his Ancestors were) but for more Politick Designs; who now having attain'd the Eighth Year of his Age, wee'l give him leave to relate all his Knight-Errand Attempts from his own Mouth.

CHAP. I.

Shewing how he serv'd his Fathers Turkies, his Cheating a Woman of a Basket of Cherries, his being plac'd in a Boarding-School, and his mischievous Transactions there.

My first Martial Attempt was this; My Father keeping several Turkies, one above the rest generally Assaulted my Bread and Butter, for Revenge, I contriv'd this Stratagem; I tempted him with Bread and Butter in my Hand to the Orchard Gate, holding it so as for the Turkey just to put his Head through, holding the Bait for him to catch at, which no sooner done, but clapping the Gate, surpriz'd my mortal Foe, and with my Cat-stick soon beat his Brains out; which done, I deplum'd his Tayl, sticking the Feathers in my Cap, as a glory to my Tryumphant Conquest: At another time (coming thro' a Market) observing a Woman with a Basket of Cherries; I ask't her what she would have for as many as I could take up in both my Hands? she answer'd Two Pence; so I gave it her, and took up Basket Cherries and all, and walkt away: the Woman ama-

amaz'd, follow'd me, making a great Outcry; at last, a Gentleman examining the Matter, I told him the Contract, who admiring my Policy, gave the Cause (it being left to his decision by consent) on my side, but withal, paid the Woman the whole worth of her Cherries. Thus being incouraged, I tenter-hook't my Inventions to please my Appetite, continuing my daily Waggeries, as Robbing of Orchards, pulling the first and seconds of 40 or 50 Geese at a time, milking the Goats or Cows into my Hat, and so drink the Milk, and then at Night haunting the Hen-rooms, where if the Hens cackl'd too much, I made their Eggs satisfie for their Heads. If at any time Geese came in my way, out came my short Stick with a string and Bullet at the end of it, which twirling about their Necks soon brought my Prey.

For the speedy conveyance away of all these things, I had a trusty Trout, an Ale-House Keeper hard by, who giving me now and then six-pence for that which was worth a Crown, and feasting me withal, made it a very good Recompence to me: But this Trade was too hot to hold, for the daily Complaints made by the Neighbourhood, so incens'd my Parents, that (to prevent my future Mildemeanours) I was straight-

way placed in a Boarding-School, under the Tuition of a stern and rigid Master; neither could this deter my Natural Inclinations, for (having new matter to work on) I soon became a Book-Worm, having so many ways to Metamorphize a Book, that the Owner thereof should not know it again; if New I would gash their Skins, if much us'd tear out all the Remarks, painting their old Faces, and so make Sale of 'em, having my Factors for these as well as the before-mention'd Merchandizes. At last, what with Complaints from the Schollars, the daily Admonitions of my Mother, and the hourly Bastinado's from my Master, I resolv'd to quit this my not-to-be-endur'd-living, and to seek my Fortune as the Fates should direct.

CHAP. II.

He runs away from his Parents, Enrolls himself in a Gang of Gypsies, and gives you the choicest of their Canting Words, with the meaning of them in plain English.

'TWas in the Month of July I took my intended Progress: the first Dinner I had was upon Black-berries; Night approaching,

proaching, I began to wish for the Flesh-pots, together with a soft Feather-bed to refresh my weary Limbs on; but these wishes were in vain; no food but Black-berries, and such like, no Lodging but what a Barn presented; when entring therein, I beheld a great many strange Creatures, and talking in a Language I understood not: we were all equally surpriz'd, at last they told me, that they were Gypsies, and if I would be of their Gang and take part of their Fortunes, they would be glad of my Company; to which I consented, and the next day being stript out of my Holy-day-Habit, into Tatters and Rags, I became one of the Fraternity, having my Face so be-daub'd with Green Wallnuts, that I look't as much like a Gypsie as the best of 'em: And that I might be perfect in their Canting Words, I had a Scroll given me of the most material things necessary to be known by those of this Profession; which take as follows.

A Utem mort, Boose.
Bouzing-Ken.
Boarde.
Bounge.
Bufe.
Bleating Cheat.

A Married Woman.
Dyink.
An Ale-house.
A Shilling.
A Purse.
A Dog.
A Sheep.

Betty.

Budge.
Buckle and File.
Cove.
Cuffin quire.
Cramp Rings.
Chats.
Crackmans.
Couch a Hogs-head.
Cackling-cheat.
Caſſan.
Craſh.
Cloy
Cly the Jerk.
Clapper-dudgeon.
Cully.
Duds.
Doxy.
Dueſwins.
Fambles.
Famble-Cheats.
Flag.
Fogus.
Glimmer.
Gilt.
Harmanbeck.
Harmans.
Heave a Booth.
Half-board.

An Inſtrument to break a Door.
One that ſteals Cloaks.
Pick Pocket & his Mate.
A Man.
A Juſtice of Peace.
Bolts or Shakles.
The Gallows.
Hedges.
Go to ſleep.
A Chicken.
Cheeſe.
To Kill.
To Steal.
To be whipt.
A Beggar born.
A ſoft-pated Fellow.
Goods.
A Wench.
Two-pence.
Hands.
Rings or Gloves.
A Goat.
Tobacco.
Fire.
A Pick-Lock.
A Conſtable.
The Stocks.
To Rob an Houſe.
Six-pence.

Hearts-

Heart-ease.	A twenty Shilling piece
Ken.	An House.
Knapper of Knappers.	A Sheep-stealer.
Kate.	A Pick-lock.
Lowre.	Money.
Libben.	A House to lye in.
Maunder.	To beg.
Margery Prater.	An Hen.
Make.	An Half-penny.
Mint.	Gold.
Prancer.	An Horse.
Prigger of Prancers.	Horse-stealers.
Rome-Padders.	High-way-padders.
Togeman.	A Cloak.

Thus have I given you a taste of the Canting-Tongue, and having continued with 'um a small time, I abandon'd their Company to seek out other Adventures.

CHAP. III.

He leaves the Gypsies and begs by himself, a Merchant likes him and takes him Apprentice, he gets the Maid of the House with Child, and then goes for Ireland.

THus quitting my Canting-Crew, I resolv'd to set up for my self; when coming

ing to London, and getting Acquaintance with a sturdy Beggar we straight went to a Boozing-Ken and bubb'd rumly, concluding an Everlasting Friendship: he having instructed me in the Maunding-Trade, next morning we took our Stands in More-fields, some distance from each other; where I soon began, With a God bless you *Master*, and let Heaven Reward what you have here done on Earth; with these and such like Speeches did we get store of Money from Charitable Persons: when one day as I was begging, a Merchant coming by and observing me to be a stubbed Fellow, offer'd me a Service if I would live with him; to which I soon agreed, came to his House, was stript from my Rags, good Cloaths put on, and soon after was bound Apprentice to him, with whom I might have liv'd in a happy Condition, but that my too forward Lechery was the unhappy cause of my Misfortune; for scarce had I serv'd four Months of my Time, but that I had so far insinuated into the Maids favour, as to become now and then her Bedfellow; but this our Nocturnal Dalliances was of small continuance: for she coming to me one day when I was alone, after many Heart-fetcht Sighs, told me, That she was with Child; I thought I should have dy'd with this surprizing

News,

News; however, to set the best side outwards, I bid her be of good cheer, and that I would take such care as she should not be disgrac'd, telling her I had Wealthy Parents living in the Country (far enough you may imagine) where I would in a short time send her, there to live Inn, and that I would quit my Service soon after, come down into the Country and marry her, not questioning but to live well together, advising her to lace her self very straight, and keep down her growing Belly with two or three Busks: the poor Soul not imagining the Venom which lay under these fair speeches, in keeping her in suspence, until I had an opportunity to rub off, which soon after hapned; my Master and Mistris being absent, it fortun'd that I took for Wares that day about Threescore Pound Sterling; over-joy'd with this Success, I pack't up Bag and Baggage, resolving for Ireland, far enough out of my Masters reach: All things favouring my Design, in three Weeks I arriv'd there, when changing my Name as well as Habit, the next Chapter makes mention of my Extravagant Transactions.

CHAP.

CHAP. IV.

In Ireland he was Cheated of all his Money, the ways he had to get more, he comes into England again, and turns Highway-man.

THE next day after my Arrival in Ireland, I sent for a Barber to Shave my Hair off, buying a Periwig contrary to the colour of my own Hair, in order that if I met any one that was of my Acquaintance, or fatal Messenger from my Master, they might not know me: the truth o'nt is, in this Disguise I knew not my self; for when my Landlady where I lodg'd, call'd me by the new Name I gave my self, I either star'd upon her, or look't another way, (thinking she had spoke to some body else) at last, fearing this would betray me, I pretended my self Deaf, which Apology took away all fulpition. In this manner I lived a Month, frequenting Taverns, Ale-Houses and Brothel-Houses, when in one of those places I met with a person who bubbl'd me at Hazard (a certain Play with Dice) not leaving me one Penny, but withal he was so kind (curse of his favour) as to discharge the whole shot. Now I leave any

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one to judge the deplorableness of my Condition, who had neither Monies, Friends, nor Credit, and in a place utterly unacquainted with their Language. But (tho' Fortune frown'd at this Juncture,) yet in a turn I was on the top of her Wheel again, for now being reduced to stretch my Wits, I thus put them in Practice. Wealthy and Aged Widdows, or Thrifty Maids, who had laid up what they had gotten in Service, as a Bait to procure an Husband, such did I daily hunt out and visit 'em by turns: I was not sparing of Amorous Expressions, by which means I deluded several, some I was forc'd to give Earnest to for their Goods before they would trust me with what they had: This course I follow'd 'till I was taken notice of for a grand Deceiver.

Having now gotten a round Sum of Money by me, I resolv'd to return into England, this place being now too hot for me: so crossing St. Georges Channel, in 24 hours I landed at Chester; the next day proving Market-day, I bought an excellent Gelding, with Sword, Pistols, and other Furniture. In this Equipage mounted, I took leave of the place, intending to be a Knight of the Road; I had not rode far, before three mounted rode by me (I found them afterwards to be the Van-guard) having as many more in

the

the Rear. At the bottom of an Hill they before fac'd about, bidding me Stand, in the interim those behind came up, so I saw 'twas in vain to resist, but told them, I wonder'd they would rob one of their profession; when they searching me, and finding good store of Money, they asked me where I had it? I answer'd, 'Twas not an hour since I met with a Booty, this being it, and that, if they pleas'd, I would willingly Enrol my self in their Fraternity; They seeing me well Arm'd, and of a portly Stature, consented, and away we rode to the next Inn, to make merry at my new Admittance.

CHAP. V.

He and his Companions commit two Robberies, he dislikes their Company, and Robs by himself.

COming into a private Room, they pull'd off their False-Beards, Vizards, Hoods, Patches, Wens, Muffles and Perriwigs, with other Disguises, so that they appear'd as other Men, which done, Come, says the Master-Thief, I perceive you are a fresh Man and therefore want some Instructions as well as Disguises, which he imparted to me in a plentiful manner, and after that I was adopted a sworn

sworn Brother: Fraught with these Devi-
tes, and well liquor'd with Sack, we all re-
solv'd to attempt some Enterprize that Eve-
ning: so about six a Clock we planted our
selves in a convenient place, and I only
was sent out for a Discoverer: not rightly
understanding my Trade, I rambled too far,
however I met with a single person whom I
bid Stand, which he would have done, and
surrender'd his Purse, only he was on a
Stone-horse, I on a Mare; the word was no
sooner spoke, but his Stone-horse wheel'd off
and came in the rear of me (for there was
something it seems under my Mares Tayl
very powerful, which I then thought not of;
I led him round several times, till the poor
Gentleman (fearing he had provok'd me by
these delays, which his Horse was the cause
of) cry'd out, Worthy Sir, take what I have and
spare my Life; at that very instant his Horse
rear'd his two fore-Feet upon me and my
Mare, insomuch that I thought he said, I'le
take both *Life* and *Money* too presently; fear
had then rendred me so incapable of perform-
ing the Office of a Thief, that putting spurs
to my Mare, I fled for safety, notwith-
standing the Stone-horse was still close at
my Heels; thus disorderly flying, one of
my Pistols went off, which I thought my
back-friend had discharged at me, which
made

made me roar out for Quarter; he on the other side cry'd out, As you are a Man shew your self merciful, saying, Good Sir stop, I thinking he call'd after me, hold him, stop him; do what I could, his Horse leapt upon us: at which time (by what means I know not) we all came Headlong to the ground; I expected now nothing but Death, but recovering, and finding my Adversary upon the run, I could have hang'd my self to think I should be accounted a Man, and yet want the Courage answerable: however, I soon overtook him, made my self Master of his Wealth, and so sent him packing. Whilst I was framing a Lye to tell my Comrades how Valiantly I behav'd my self in this Encounter, they were all on a suddain at my Elbow, applauding my Courage for running away at the sound of Good Sir be merciful, and several other Jeers; I should never have stopt their mouths, had I not show'd 'um what I took from him, which was very considerable. About twilight we met with another prize, but different from the before-mention'd; for we four meeting with five Men, and bidding them Stand, they stoutly resisted, which put us hard to't, one of our Company being Wounded, yet we overcame 'em, driving them into a Wood, I at that time learning to search with such

care

care, that not a penny or any thing valuable could be kept from me; with these Booties we repair'd to our Inn, where our Host calls lustily for Sack, which the Drawer doubles in the Bar; the Hostler must be one of the Company too, who expects a snack, which we dare not deny, lest he betray us: then with what we are oblig'd to give the Servants, and offer'd up our Sacrifices to the Landlady for some small favours receiv'd, we find in conclusion, we rob for them and not for our selves; which I perceiving, and having now some Experience, I resolv'd to set up for my self.

CHAP. VI.

He gets a Farmers Daughter with Child, and Robs her Father of all his Gold, &c.

SCouring the Road, I met with a Young Maid with a Milk-Pail on her Head, observing her to be more than ordinary handsome, I fell into some Discourse with her: As she was opening a Gate to Milk her Cows, I follow'd, dismounting, ty'd my Horse to a Hedge, begging her Excuse for my rudeness; I at last sate down by her, and after many powerful perswasions, tend-

ing to Love affairs, she suffer'd me to crop her Virgin-Fruit: We then grew something more familiar, but the busthen of the Song was, I had undone her, which I leave to any reasonable person to judge; we concluded she should go home, and at night I was to come to her Fathers House, pretending I was a stranger on that Road, and had lost my way, desiring a Lodging for that Night: all things perform'd accordingly, her Father gave me Entertainment for that Night, which was spent in sweet Embraces with his Daughter, contrary to the good Old Mans expectation. When the morning appear'd, I was put to my Shifts how to contrive a longer stay, at length, with the Daughters Advice, I was to pretend Indisposition of Body, and not able to Travel, which I did, and was desired by the old Folks to stay as long as I pleas'd: but fie on ill Luck, the next night discover'd the Intreague. The Daughter and I staying up till the rest were in Bed, and being too imprudently hasty in the Kitchin, stumbled against two Barrels, pil'd one upon another, so that they fell; the Old Man not being asleep, imagining Thieves had broke in, so that before we could get dis-engag'd, he took us napping, by the light of some small Fire left in the Chimney: I desired

him

him to be silent, and not spread his Daughters disgrace, for in a few days I would Marry her: I stayed afterwards about some three days to colour the matter, but 'twas chiefly to know where her Fathers treasure lay, which I so cunningly sifted from the Daughter, that I soon had it in my possession, and so marcht off incognito.

CHAP. VII.

He lights of a Female Robber in Mars Habit, he goes to her House, and agrees to Rob with her.

THus abruptly taking my leave of the Farmer and his kind Daughter, I rid a long time, meeting with nothing worthy of observation; being weary, I struck into an Inn, where refreshing my self, and the Evening approaching, I mounted, and so put on; when passing by a small Coppice, in a bottom between two hills, a Gentleman (as I supposed) started out upon me, saying, Stand, and deliver; With that I drew a Pistol and fir'd at him, he doing the same by me, and so till we had discharg'd two at each other; which last Shots happening on

our Horſes heads, they became ſo unruly, that we were forc'd to alight and draw our Swords, when my adverſary making a direct thruſt, I put it by, clos'd with him, and, upon the hug, threw him with much facility: I wonder'd much at it (which I need not have done, ſince his nature (as afterward I underſtood) was ſo prone to it;) Sir, ſaid I, this will teach you hereafter to beware on whom you ſet; With that, unbutoning his Doublet to find if there was any Gold quilted therein, I wonder'd to ſee ſo large a pair of Breaſts, and much whiter than any Mans: at length going to ſearch his Breeches, and proffering to remove his Shirt from between his leggs, he ſuddenly cry'd out (ſtriving to lay his hand there) I pray Sir be civil: imagining that ſome choice treaſure lay there obſcured, I pull'd up his Shirt (alias Smock) and found my ſelf not much miſtaken: this ſight ſurpriz'd me, but after a little pauſe, I unbound her, and taking her up in my arms, Pardon me, moſt Couragious *Amazon*, ſays I, for thus rudely uſing you, 'twas nothing but ignorance in me; and ſince I find ſo much courage in a Woman, for your ſake I ſhall ever retain a good eſteem for the worſt of Females. She told me the place was not proper for Complements, but if I would follow her ſhe would retaliate my kind-

Kindness: I soon agreed, and being led thorough many obscure passages, we came to a Wood, in the midst whereof stood a house; at our approach, the Servants were all in a hurry who should first obey Mrs. Virago's commands, but wonder'd to see St. Gorge, and his trusty Esquire on foot, for our Horse were kill'd; where after Supper, Bottles and Pipes supplying the place of the Dishes, she laid her self open to me, having before made my self acquainted with her greatest secret.

CHAP. VIII.

He commits some Robberies, is taken and put into Newgate, is Transported, but makes his Escape.

THere were in this place three Sisters, whereof my Virago was one, they having arriv'd to a ripe age, were all Married to Shop-keepers, whose insipid Noddles not brooking those Heroick Spirits, was the occasion of many fallings out, at last these three Sisters, having provided Furniture accordingly, and putting on Mens Cloaths, unanimously agreed to Intitle themselves Squires of the Pad, Robbing with

with what advantage they cou'd, & so take their fate: this course had they follow'd for above three years, when my late adventure brought me to their House, and I being mightily pleas'd with their Company, I agreed to stay and Rob with them for some time: After a great many Contrivances, this we agreed on, one of the Sisters was to be in Mans Apparel, the other two in Womens, and so to Ride double as Men & their Wives to prevent suspition: so having got Pillions, Sakeguards and short Swords for the Famales, we set forwards: Upon the Rode about five that Evening, overtook us four Gentlemen, coming close up to us, our two subtil Gypsies show'd great fear of being Rob'd, speaking with-al so loud, that one of the Gentlemen hearing, rid up to us, bidding her not be afraid, for they were Londoners, riding out for their pleasure; & that they would venture their Lives in our defence: and Ride before to stand between us & danger: I was glad to hear they'd lead the way, for now our work was half done: my Brother, as I called him, coming up close to me, I gave him directions that at the foot of such a Hill, he should out with his short Truncheon, and make sure work with one, at which instant I would be sure to do the same by another

nother; We watcht our oppoꝛtunity ſo exactly, that we ſoon accompliſht our deſign, foꝛ accoꝛdingly at the foot of the Hill with our Truncheons diſcharged upon two of their heads, they came tumbling to the ground, (the other two being a pꝛetty way before knowing nothing of it) Our Women, diſmounting as ſwift as Lightning, ſoon made them incapable of riſing again, whilſt we, ſetting Spurs to our Hoꝛſes, ſoon overtook the other two who was before, who much admired to ſee our Swoꝛds and Piſtols in hands ready foꝛ Execution, however we ſoon put them out of their doubt, foꝛ compelling them to deliver, we diſmounted them, and cutting their Girts and Bꝛidles, we conveyed them to a ſecret place, putting the Hoꝛſes into a field, the Men we Bagg'd, bound their hands, and ſo dꝛove 'um into a Wood, our Females having ſerv'd the two other in the ſame manner; Having a booty anſwerable to our deſire, we mounted, and returned to our old Quarters:

With them I continued a conſiderable time, living in all manner of Debaucheꝛy, ſo that being ſatiated with exceſs I reſolved to leave them, which I ſoon did, by pꝛetending a little pꝛivate buſineſs abꝛoad, & ſo Rode clear away: But I ſoon repented it, foꝛ attempting to Rob a Gentleman, there-

came

came immediately five or six more to his rescue, so that do what I could, I was taken, clapt up in Newgate, at my Tryal the Evedence being clear, I was only order'd for Transportation: In our passage we suffered Shipwrack, but as the Proverb goes, He that's born to be Hang'd shall ne'r be Drowned, so I escap't tho' many others perished; When getting ashore I was soon out of reach of my Guardian, and now am I put to my Shifts once again, which shall be related in a Second Part, according as this finds acceptance in the World: Vale.

Thus being Banisht from my Native Land,
The Second part shall let you understand,
The grand Intreagues I us'd beyond the Main,
Till I return'd to England back again.

FINIS.